

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 07377 130338Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4278
AMCONSUL BRISBANE
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AMCONSUL PERTH

UNCLAS CANBERRA 7377

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL SYDNEY BY TELEPHONE:

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, AS
SUBJECT: WRAN CALLS NEW SOUTH WALES ELECTION

QUOTE:

1. LABOR PREMIER NEVILLE WRAN TODAY CALLED A GENERAL ELECTION IN NSW FOR OCT. 7TH. THE DATE CHOSEN HAD BEEN WIDELY PREDICTED AND ALL OPINION POLLS INDICATE THAT THE PRESENT LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL INCREASE ITS CURRENT THREE-VOTE MAJORITY IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND IS LIKELY TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE UPPER HOUSE, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AS WELL. FOR THE FIRST TIME CANDIDATES FOR THE UPPER HOUSE WILL BE ELECTED DIRECTLY BY THE PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW SYSTEM RECENTLY ADOPTED (SEE SYDNEY 1481). IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT THE AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATS WIN ONE SEAT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE UPPER HOUSE WILL BE DEADLOCKED AND THE AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATS WILL HOLD THE SING VOTE.

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2. THE LIBERAL PARTY, UNDER OPPOSITION LEADER PETER COLEMAN, KICKED OFF ITS CAMPAIGN THREE DAYS AGO WITH A SERIES OF CONTROVERSIAL ADVERTISEMENTS ACCUSING THE LABOR GOVERNMENT IN VERY LURID TERMS OF BEING SOFT ON CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE. ONE OF THE ADVERTISEMENTS FEATURED AN EXPLICIT SEQUENCE SHOWING HEROIN PREPARATION AND INJECTION BY ADDICTS AND ACCUSATIONS OF DIRTY

POLITICS ARE ALREADY FLYING IN WHAT PROMISES TO BE A
LIVELY CAMPAIGN.
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ALSTON

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Message Attributes

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